

Request for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136

Assignee herewith petitions the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2002 for 1 month(s) from October 5, 2002 to November 5, 2002.

Please charge Deposit Account #02-2666 in the amount of:

<u> X </u>	(\$110.00 for a one month extension)
<u> </u>	(\$400.00 for a two month extension)
<u> </u>	(\$920.00 for a three month extension)
<u> </u>	(\$1,440.00 for a four month extension)

to cover the cost of the extension.

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is requested. By this amendment, claims 11 has been amended and claim 30 has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-30 are in the application.

Drawing Change

The Examiner's permission is requested to make the change to FIG. 6 shown in red in the accompanying marked up drawing. FIG. 6 has been amended to correct a typographical error contained therein. FIG. 6 is being amended to change original reference number 128 to reference number 126. Support for the change to FIG. 6 may be found on page 10, lines 14-19, of the application.

A formal drawing of FIG. 6 has been enclosed that includes the requested change shown in red in the accompanying marked up drawing. It is respectfully requested that the enclosed formal drawing be entered.

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 11 has been amended to correct a typographical error contained therein. The amendment to claim 11 is truly cosmetic and does not narrow the scope of the claims. Therefore, Applicants believe that claim 11 is not subject to the complete bar against the use of the Doctrine of Equivalents as outlined in *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*

Restriction Requirement

The Office action states that the present application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention and then defines four species: species 1 ("a first embodiment, shown in figures 1-5"), species 2 ("a second embodiment, shown in figure 6"), species 3 ("a third embodiment, disclosed in page 11 line 22 through page 12 line 9"), and species 4 ("a fourth embodiment, shown in figure 8").

Applicants elect species 1 (Figures 1-5 as defined by the Examiner) and submit that claims 1-9, 11-16, 18-22, and 24-30 read on at least species 1. Further, applicants disagree with the Examiner's statement that no claim is

generic, rather, applicants submit that claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 18-21, and 24-28 are generic since all the embodiments enumerated by the Examiner are within the breadth and scope of these claims.

Applicants request that upon allowance of generic claims, that the non-elected claims that are dependent from the allowed generic claims or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claims be fully considered for allowance.

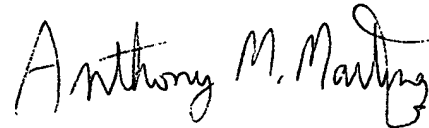
Further, Applicants respectfully point out that it is well understood that the scope of the claims is not limited to the embodiments discussed in the detailed description and not limited to that which is shown in the figures.

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #02-2666.

If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (480) 552-0624 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 24, 2002

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